

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

To help us make the most of your response, please tell us about yourself and how you want us to use the information you provide. There are some questions marked * and these must be answered by all respondents, unless you are directed past this question.

* I am responding as:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An individual
	<input type="checkbox"/> An organisation/group
Name of Organisation (if appropriate)	
Forename	
Surname	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Email	
Do you consider yourself or your organisation as from or representing?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a rural area	<input type="checkbox"/> an urban area
<input type="checkbox"/> an area with both urban and rural parts	<input type="checkbox"/> don't know / not applicable
Would you be happy to be approached by the Commission for further discussion about your submission?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If you are responding as an individual:	
* Do you agree to your response being made available to the public on the Commission's web site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
* If you have agreed to your response being made available to the public, please tell us if we may also make your name and address available. (Please select one option only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, make my response, name and address all available	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address	
<i>If you are responding as an individual we would be grateful if you could provide some additional information at the end of this form. This is absolutely optional but will help us get an overall picture of the information we receive.</i>	
If you are responding as a group or organisation:	
* The name and address of your organisation will be made public on the Commission's web site. Are you content for your response to also be made available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Which of the following best describes your organisation? (Please select one option only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Group	<input type="checkbox"/> A business
<input type="checkbox"/> Local Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> A government department or agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Other public sector organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> A social enterprise
<input type="checkbox"/> Third Sector organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional body	
Short description of the main purpose of your organisation:	

Tell us what you think

We have not provided a long list of questions, but we do want to hear what you have to say about some themes. Please respond to as few or as many as you wish. If you would prefer to send us other information, please feel free to do so. However, it would be helpful to keep your response to no more than eight pages.

If you are able to, please provide evidence or examples in support of what you say. This will help us explore your ideas further.

1. SCOTLAND'S CURRENT SYSTEM OF COUNCIL TAX

To what extent does the current system of council tax deliver a fair and effective system of local taxation in Scotland? Are there any features of the current system that you wish to see retained or changed?

You may wish to illustrate your answer with examples from your own experience.

Please provide your response here

Unfortunately, Margaret Thatcher had it right. The Community Charge is a MUCH better way of raising the necessary income for local government. All the fuss came from those on high incomes living in low value property who did not want the 'system' to catch them. The present system is so grossly unfair to the low income occupant(s) who through no fault of their own may live in a property that has appreciated in value. Taxing all the occupants of a property who earn a decent wage is MUCH better. Obviously there should be abatements for individuals on low incomes. This concept could be incorporated in a local income tax system if it was more 'acceptable'.

2. REFORM OF LOCAL TAXATION

Are there alternatives to the current system of council tax that you think would help to reform local taxation in Scotland? What are the main features of these, and why do you think they would deliver improvement?

Do you have any examples of why this is the case?

Please provide your response here

See above.

3. LOCAL PRIORITIES

How well do you think that communities' local priorities are accounted for in the way that local taxation operates at the moment? If there is room for improvement, how should things change?

Do you have any ideas or examples about how this could improve people's lives?

Please provide your response here

For the occupants of individual remote properties there is little apart from refuse collection that is pertinent. The legislation that abolished Town Councils was totally iniquitous as it removed all realistic local accountability. Items that may have been low on a Town Council priority list completely disappear from a unitary authority priority list so that the less important jobs now just do not get done at all. There is no realistic local accountability and the locally collected 'precepts' still get paid to the local authority but never return to the source community. Grossly unfair.

The concept of Community Council areas to include properties that lie outside Town Council areas is not entirely unreasonable, but instead of abolishing the very well established Town Councils their areas of responsibility should have been extended to include the local outlying properties in the same geographic areas now allocated to Community Councils. Community Councils in areas with no local town are okay.

Toothless wonders, a product of a centralisation mad administration.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

We would like to keep the conversation going. Please tell us about any events, networks or other ways in which we could help achieve this.

Please provide your response here

The community where I live is so fragmented and uncommunicative that I can only offer you good luck. Oh for a Town Council with locally elected representatives.....

Thank you for your submission. If you have any queries about the Call for Evidence please contact us at:

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twitter: [@localtaxscot](https://twitter.com/localtaxscot)